

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. UM-07718

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Madhavi Krishnan, *et al.* Art Unit: 1637
Serial No.: 10/678,805 Examiner: Wilder, Cynthia B.
Filed: 10/3/03
Entitled: **Methods of Performing Biochemical Reactions in a Convective Flow Field**

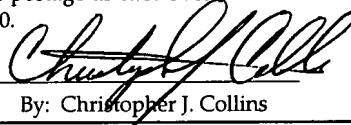
**REQUEST TO WITHDRAW FINALITY OF FINAL
OFFICE ACTION MAILED AUGUST 6, 2007**

Mail Stop - Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)(1)(i)(A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: October 31, 2007



By: Christopher J. Collins

Examiner Wilder:

The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider withdrawing the pending Final Office Action as being prematurely issued. The Applicants have diligently pursued the prosecution in good faith and in accordance with USPTO guidelines:

The applicant who is seeking to define his or her invention in claims that will give him or her the patent protection to which he or she is justly entitled should receive the cooperation of the examiner to that end, and not be prematurely cut off ...

MPEP §706.07 Final Rejection [emphasis added]. Further, the Applicants have not engaged in any behavior intended to unfairly prolong the examination:

...the applicant who dallies in the prosecution of his or her application, resorting to technical or other obvious subterfuges in order to keep the application pending before the primary examiner, can no longer find a refuge in the rules to ward off a final rejection.

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. UM-07718

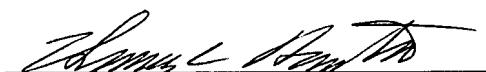
MPEP §706.07 Final Rejection. On the contrary, the Applicants have objectively considered the Examiner's arguments and provided claim amendments where appropriate. In response, the Examiner has withdrawn some rejections and/or objections. In other words, progress is being made on this application. A Final Rejection at this point unfairly truncates the Applicants' entitlement to a full and fair hearing:

The examiner should never lose sight of the fact that in every case the applicant is entitled to a full and fair hearing ...

MPEP §706.07 Final Rejection. In this case, the Examiner has improperly raised a newly cited reference that was not necessitated by the Applicants previous response. Even though Bennett et al. was asserted for anticipation to new claims, the Examiner should have provided this reference as relevant to the Original claims.

Consequently, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider withdrawing the present final office action.

Dated: October 31, 2007



Thomas C. Howerton
Registration No. 48,650

MEDLEN & CARROLL, LLP
101 Howard Street, Suite 350
San Francisco, California 94105
617.984.0616